

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01932 090943Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PC-01 AID-05 OMB-01 EUR-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /092 W
-----029503 090950Z /15

P R 090852Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9758
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 1932

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, KS, US
SUBJECT: KORAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS,MARCH 9

REF: SEOUL 1896 (DTG 080840Z MAR 78)

1. TEAM SPIRIT: CONTINUED LARGE PRESS PLAY. CHOSUN ILBO CITY EDITOR NOTES FIRST DAY OF EXERCISE HAD NO COVERAGE ON AFKN-TV; SAYS KOREAN MEDIA REPORTING IS TOO EXTENSIVE. EDITOR WORRIES SUCH COVERAGE MAY MISLEAD KOREAN PEOPLE TO THINK THAT US TROOPS WILL COME TO FIGHT IN KOREA IN ANY CONTINGENCY AND THUS RELAX KOREANS' POSTURE FOR SELF-DEFENSE.

2. MILITARY "AID": CHOSUN ILBO QUOTES MOFA OFFICIALS SAYING CONGRESS HAS "NO REASON TO MAKE A BIG NOISE" ABOUT COMPENSATORY PACKAGE OR FMS. OFFICIALS POINT OUT A) TRANSFER PACKAGE WAS "CLEAR COMMITMENT OF US TO KOREA MADE LAST YEAR"; AND B) FMS IS LOAN, NOT GRANT, AND REPORTING SHOULD NOT CALL IT "AID".

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3. DOD'S WHITE TESTIMONY: FRONT PAGE TREATMENT UNDER HEADLINE "US GROUND FORCES WILL BE INVOLVED IN EVENT OF RENEWED KOREAN CONFLICT."

4. KOREAGATE: SMALL PLAY OF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS THAT PTS CONTINUED TO SAY HEA ACTED ON HIS OWN AND

CAPUTO CONTINUED TO URGE TESTIMONY OF KOREA OFFICIALS.

5. FUKUDA ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS: FRONT PAGE COVERAGE. TONGYANG WIRE SERVICE REPORTS FUKUDA EXPLAINING THAT IN LEGAL THEORY, HE IS "CONFIDENT SUPREME COURT WOULD UPHOLD VIEW" THAT JAPAN COULD HAVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR DEFENSE, BUT CONTINUED THIS IS AND WILL NOT BE JAPAN'S POLICY. TONGA ILBO'S CORRESPONDENT DID NOT CARRY LATTER PART OF STATEMENT.

6. TITO: CHOSUN ILBO FEATURE SAY CARTER HAS BECOME MORE "DISCREET", USING NSC SPOKESMAN RATHER THAN PERSONAL STATEMENT AND "NOT REITERATING HIS WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH NORTH KOREA". CONTINUES ISSUE OF US"NK CONTACT, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED DEAD ISSUE YET.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL01932
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780106-0042
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780387/aaaacvsk.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4f6c4cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SEOUL 1896
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3386094
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KORAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS,MARCH 9
TAGS: SOPN, KS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f6c4cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014